

# TATE THISTIP

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Applicant:   | David B. Link    | )                   |
|--------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Serial No.:  | 10/642,404       | ) Art Unit: Unknown |
| Filing Date: | August 15, 2003  | ) Examiner: Unknown |
| For:         | ANIMAL ENCLOSURE | )                   |
|              |                  | )                   |

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.97

Mail Stop DD Assistant Commissioner for Patents Post Office Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

#### Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the following Information Disclosure Statement is submitted as listed on form PTO/SB/08A enclosed herewith in duplicate.

No representation is made that the references disclosed herein legally constitute prior art, or that more relevant references are not available. The disclosure documents listed on the attached form (PTO/SB/08A) are printed in the English language and/or accompanied by an Abstract published in the English language.

The references listed herein, when taken alone or in combination are not believed to disclose nor make obvious the invention as claimed in the subject application.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the stipulated three

months from the filing date of the application and/or before the mailing of a first Office Action, it is believed that no fee is required.

If a fee is required, please charge Account Number 19-4330.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 15, 2003

By:

Customer No. 007663

Kit M. Stetina, Esq. Registration No. 36,224

STETINA BRUNDA GARRED & BRUCKER

75 Enterprise, Suite 250 Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

(949) 855-1246

PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB

number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

| Complete if Known      |                 |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|--|
| Application Number     | 10/642.404      |  |  |  |  |
| Filing Date            | August 15, 2003 |  |  |  |  |
| First Named Inventor   | David B. Link   |  |  |  |  |
| Art Unit               | Unknown         |  |  |  |  |
| Examiner Name          | Unknown         |  |  |  |  |
| Attorney Docket Number | PREPT-002A      |  |  |  |  |

|                    | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |   |                                |  |   |  |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite<br>No. 1         | Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |  |
|                    |                       | US-4,016,833  |                                | Ronald C. Ray                                      |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-4,527,512  |                                | Masami Sugiura                                     |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-4,590,885  | 05-27-1986                     | Masami Sugiura                                     |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-4,762,085  | 08-09-1988                     | Vladimir J. Ondrasik                               |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-4,763,606  | 08-16-1988                     | Vladimir J. Ondrasik                               |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-4,917,047  |                                | Francis X. Wazeter, III                            |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-5,097,796  |                                | Robert Reimers                                     |   |  |
|                    |                       | US- 5,233,939   |                                | Arthur J. Randolph                                 |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-5,335,618  | 08-09-1994                     | J. Anthony Zarola                                  |   |  |
|                    |                       | US- 5,482,005   |                                | Jerry D. Thom                                      |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-5,544,619  | 08-13-1996                     | Hans Braun   |   |  |
|                    |                       | US- 5,549,073   | 08-27-1996                     | William E. Askins                                  |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-5,626,098  | 05-06-1997                     | William E. Askins                                  |   |  |
|                    |                       | US- 5,653,194   | 08-05-1997                     | Jane R. Guy  |   |  |
|                    |                       | US- 5,752,470   | 05-19-1998                     | Walter Koneke                                      |   |  |
|                    |                       | US- 5,950,568   | 09-14-1999                     | Glen Axelrod                                       |   |  |
|                    |                       | US- 5,967,089   | 10-19-1999                     | Gerald M. Allen                                    |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-6,092,488  | 07-25-2000                     | George Allawas                                     |   |  |
|                    |                       | US-6,152,081  | 11-28-2000                     | Michael D. Baker                                   |   |  |
|                    |                       | US- 6,192,834   | 02-27-2001                     | Kevin Kolozsvari                                   |   |  |

|                       | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |   |                                |  |   |        |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|--------|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1             | Foreign Patent Document  Country Code3 -Number4 -Kind Code5 (# known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T6     |
|                       |                          |   |                                |  |   |        |
|                       |                          |   |                                |  |   |        |
|                       |                          |   |                                |  |   | H      |
|                       | Ι.                       |   | -                              |  |   | $\Box$ |
|                       |                          |   |                                |  |   |        |

| Examiner<br>Signature | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Orginataro            |                    |  |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/PTO **Application Number** 10/642.404 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date August 15, 2003 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT **First Named Inventor** David B. Link Art Unit Unknown (use as many sheets as necessary) Examiner Name <u>Unknown</u> Attorney Docket Number PREPT-002A Sheet of

|                       |  | U.S. PAT                       | ENT DOCUMENTS                                      |   |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | <br>Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known, | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       | US-6,631,590   | 10-14-2003                     | Shannon Glowaski                                   | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·   |
|                       | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                       | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                       | <br>US-  |                                |  |   |
|                       | <br>US-  |                                |  |   |
|                       | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                       | <br>US-  |                                |  |   |
|                       | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                       | US-  |                                |  | - W   |
|                       | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                       | US-  |                                |  | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·   |

|                       |              | FORE  | IGN PATENT D     | OCUMENTS   |   |    |
|-----------------------|--------------|---|------------------|--|---|----|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | Foreign Patent Document  Country Code3 -Number -Kind Code5 (if known) | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T6 |
|                       |              |   |                  |  |   |    |
|                       |              |   |                  |  |   |    |
|                       |              |   |                  |  |   |    |
| _                     |              |   |                  |  |   | _  |

| Examiner<br>Signature | MAS | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|-----|--------------------|--|

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box -> +

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

## **TRANSMITTAL FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

| Application Numb r     | 10/642,404      |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Filing Date            | August 15, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor   | David B. Link   |
| Group Art Unit         | Unknown         |
| Examiner Name          | Unknown         |
| Attorney Docket Number | PREPT-002A      |

|  | ENCLOSURES (check  | ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)                                 |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Fee Transmittal Form                                 | Assignment Papers (for an Application)                         | After Allowance Communication to Group                            |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fee Attached   | Drawing(s)   | Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences        |  |  |  |  |  |
| Amendment / Reply                                    | Licensing-related Papers                                       | Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |  |  |  |  |  |
| After Final  | Petition   | Proprietary Information   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Affidavits/declaration(s)                            | Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application               | Status Letter   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Extension of Time Request                            | Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address | X Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Express Abandonment Reques                           | Terminal Disclaimer  Request for Refund                        | - Form PTO/SB/08A (in duplicate<br>- Return postcard              |  |  |  |  |  |
| X Information Disclosure Stateme                     | CD, Number of CD(s)  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)               | Remarks * Please charge any add                                | litional fees to Deposit Account No.                              |  |  |  |  |  |
| Response to Missing Parts/<br>Incomplete Application | 19-4330.   | mional rees to Deposit Account No.                                |  |  |  |  |  |
| Response to Missing Par<br>under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.   |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ICNATURE OF ARRUGANT ATTORNEY OR                               | ACENT   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Firm   | IGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR                            | AGENI   |  |  |  |  |  |
| or Kit M. S  | Kit M. Stetina, Esq.   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Individual name STETIN                               | A BRUNDA GARRED & BRUCKER                                      |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Signature  | MES  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Date October   | 15, 2003   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING                               |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |

| I hereby certify that this corre-<br>mail in an envelope addresse | spondence is being deposited with the United States Po<br>ed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 2023 | ostal Service with sufficient postage as first class 1 on this date: $10/15/2003$ |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| Typed or printed name   | Josephine I Weissherger  |   | , |
| Signature   | Mith Marke   | Date 10/15/2003   | ٠ |

Date | 10/15/2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. (Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.